

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

1. (Original) An imaging apparatus, comprising:

i) a planar electrostatic recording material, which records image information as an electrostatic latent image, and which generates electric currents in accordance with the electrostatic latent image when a read-out surface of the planar electrostatic recording material is scanned with a reading electromagnetic wave,

ii) a flat plate-shaped substrate, which supports the electrostatic recording material from a side of the read-out surface, and which has permeability with respect to the reading electromagnetic wave, and

iii) a flat plate-shaped base plate for supporting the flat plate-shaped substrate from a side opposite to a surface of the substrate, on which surface the electrostatic recording material is formed, the flat plate-shaped base plate having a rigidity higher than the rigidity of the substrate and having permeability with respect to the reading electromagnetic wave.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus as defined in Claim 1 wherein the base plate has a coefficient of thermal expansion approximately identical with the coefficient of thermal expansion of the substrate.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus as defined in Claim 1 wherein the base plate has a refractive index approximately identical with the refractive index of the substrate.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus as defined in Claim 2 wherein the base plate has a refractive index approximately identical with the refractive index of the substrate.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U. S. Application No. 09/834,942

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Am~~ The apparatus as defined in Claim 1, 2, 3, or 4 wherein a surface of the base plate and a surface of the substrate, which surfaces stand facing each other, are adhered by an adhesive agent to each other.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Am~~ The apparatus as defined in Claim 1, 2, 3, or 4 wherein an anti-reflection coating layer for preventing reflection of the reading electromagnetic wave is formed on a light entry face of the base plate, upon which light entry face the reading electromagnetic wave is incident.

Please add the following new claims:

7. (New) The apparatus as defined in Claim 7 wherein the flat plate-shaped base plate is supported vertically by at least two end regions of a top region of the flat plate-shaped base and does not bend.

8. (New) The apparatus as defined in Claim 8 further comprising a current detecting means disposed between the two end regions of the top region of the flat plate-shaped base, the current detecting means communicating with the flat plate-shaped substrate.

9. (New) The apparatus defined in Claim 1 wherein the base plate is disposed towards the read out surface of the flat plate-shaped substrate.